



**T**he Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a regional, state and national treasure. It is a unique and valuable estuary and ecosystem, the hub of the state's water supply system and important to recreation and tourism. The Delta supplies water to 25 million people, irrigates more than 7 million acres of the most productive agricultural land in the nation, and supports important infrastructure.

The Delta is in serious crisis. Under current management practices, the Delta as it exists today is unsustainable. It is threatened by the effects of floods, earthquakes, sea-level rise, climate change, invasive species and increased urbanization. Its ability to supply enough drinking and irrigation water is competing with the needs of the native species that rely on its habitat.

Under Governor Schwarzenegger's leadership, several state agencies are working on many projects and initiatives that will result in a more sustainable Delta.

### **Delta Vision**

Delta Vision is a process to develop a long-term vision for sustainable management of the Delta. The Delta Vision process consists of two phases. The first phase, which is complete, resulted in a long-term vision for the Delta. The second phase, which is currently under way, will result in a strategic plan to implement the long-term vision. <http://deltavision.ca.gov/>

### **Bay-Delta Conservation Plan**

The Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) is intended to recover endangered and sensitive species and their habitats in the Delta in a way that also provides for sufficient and reliable water supplies. The BDCP is being developed under the Federal Endangered Species Act and the California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act. This process provides opportunities for a broad range of participants to work together to develop a comprehensive conservation plan that will accommodate the needs of both people and endangered fish and wildlife species. <http://resources.ca.gov/bdcp/>

### **Flood Protection and Management**

Many people in California, including those in the Delta, currently face unacceptable risk of potential harm caused by floods. California has begun the process to improve flood management systems, increase flood protection and improve flood preparedness. In the Delta, the Department of Water Resources in coordination with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the Delta Protection Commission, and other state, federal and local agencies is expanding emergency preparedness and response programs to improve and ensure the protection of life, property, infrastructure, and the environment. [http://www.water.ca.gov/floodsafe/docs/FloodSAFE\\_Overview\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/floodsafe/docs/FloodSAFE_Overview_Fact_Sheet.pdf)

### **Habitat Restoration Projects**

There are many habitat restoration projects, sometimes called Interim Delta actions are intended to help protect and restore Delta habitat and species, improve our ability to respond to catastrophic Delta failures and help water users cope with supply interruptions while long-term Delta planning efforts are being completed. These actions are intended to be compatible with any long-term Delta plan and make incremental improvements until long-term plans are in place. <http://www.water.ca.gov/deltainit/action.cfm>

### **Where to Get Additional Information:**

Delta Initiative Website: <http://www.water.ca.gov/deltainit/>

Email your questions to: [delta@water.ca.gov](mailto:delta@water.ca.gov)

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